

REMARKS

This paper is supplemental to the Response to Non-Final Office Action dated February 1, 2005, that was filed on February 2, 2005. Claims 1-31 are pending.

In further response to the request for information under Section 1.105, applicants wish to confirm, after additional investigation, that the concepts of the present application are not currently implemented in any product of the assignee EBS. Further, there is no current time line for such implementation.

Moreover, confirmation has now been received from several of the inventors that they were unaware of any prior art using the clique tree structure prior to designing the invention of the present application and claims. Also, the inventors have not identified any prior art that should be submitted, other than the background references already discussed in previous responses and cited in this application.

The present Office Action repeats the requirement under 1.105, for a description of certain background information. The above, in conjunction with the information mentioned in the Response dated February 1, 2005, is believed to address the outstanding issues in the December 2, 2004 Office Action. No other information is known or can be readily obtained.

In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to pass this application to issue.

Respectfully submitted,

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